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Editor's Note

Achieving the Extraordinary

By Matt Lazier



The Cal Poly community teems with stories of extraordinary achievement.

Students excel and help solve real-world problems before they have degree in hand. Professors lead cutting-edge research and enable their students — and sometimes others — to do more than they'd dreamed. And alumni leave campus and make positive changes in the world on their way to personal and professional success.

In these pages, we bring you some examples: biology students who are teaching professors about a new protein analysis technique; an engineering sophomore whose 3.82 GPA and baseball skills make him a model of our scholar-athlete model; and alums who are helping design eye-popping worlds in DreamWorks Animation's hit films and facilitating construction projects to help some of the world's neediest people.

And we need look no further than the campus core to see an extraordinary achievement. The new Center for Science and Mathematics will open to students this fall after years of construction, and our cover story gives you a glimpse into the minds of the men who dreamed the building into existence.

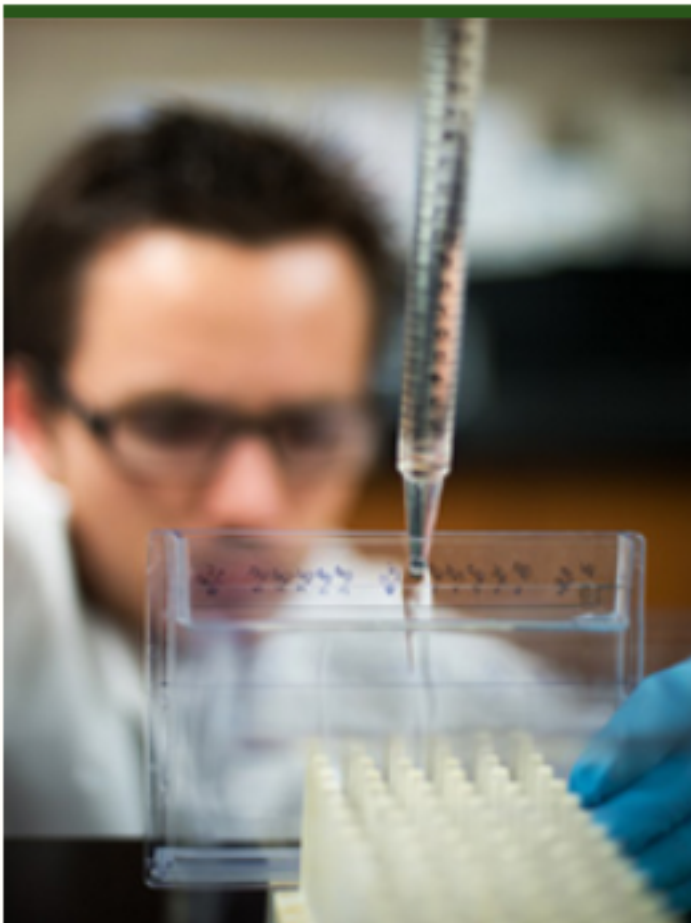
Elsewhere in this edition, learn about physics professor John Keller's National Science Foundation-funded program that is putting telescopes in rural California towns and helping citizen scientists take part in groundbreaking research into our solar system's farthest reaches.

Read the latest campus news, including the Orfalea College of Business' climb up Bloomberg Businessweek's ranking of the nation's best business schools.

And finally, read President Jeffrey D. Armstrong's thoughts and see some of our best images from the May campus visit by CSU Chancellor Timothy P. White. This was our new chancellor's first visit to Cal Poly, and the campus came together to show him how Learn by Doing makes us unique. Also, see our separate photo spread on the first ever Evening of Green and Gold., an event honoring donors, volunteers and other university friends during the chancellor's visit.

We hope this edition helps you stay connected to the university you love. Thanks for reading. And please contact me at [mlazier@calpoly.edu](mailto:mlazier@calpoly.edu) with your comments, questions and story tips.

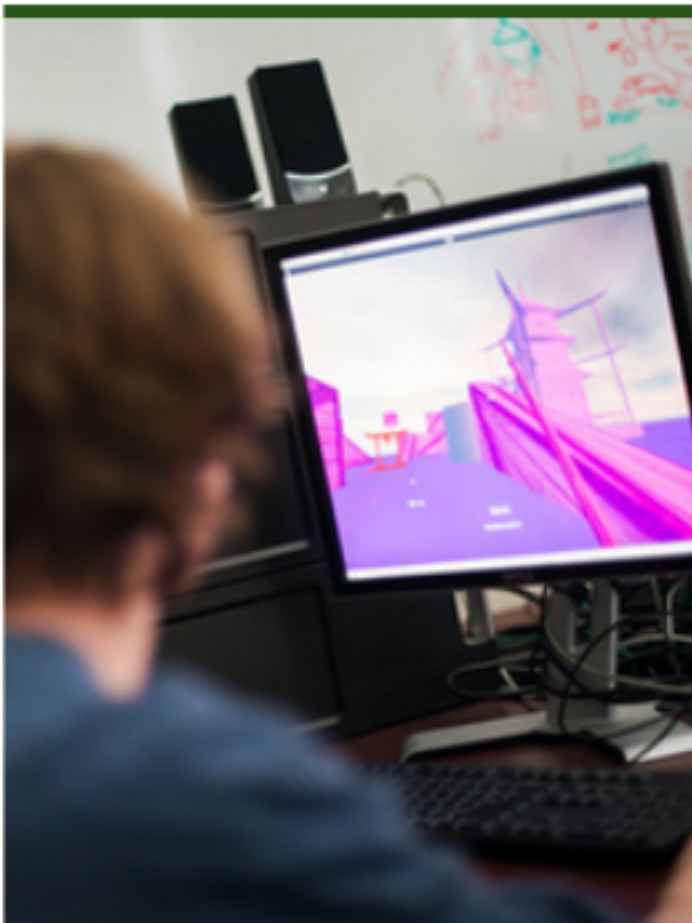
Matt Lazier  
Editor  
B.S., Journalism, 1997



The Apprentices Become the Masters

Cal Poly Students are Among the Few Experts on a New Scientific Technique

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Creating Their Worlds

Alums Make Movie Magic Thanks to Close Ties Between Cal Poly and DreamWorks Animation

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An Evening of Green and Gold

Images from the Inaugural Event Thanking Donors and Volunteers

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Hard Work Under Pressure

Tommy Pluschkell Defines the Cal Poly Student-Athlete Model

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